

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 47

California’s public schools used to be among the best in the nation. But years of neglect and inadequate funding have taken their toll.

Students can’t learn and teachers can’t teach in overcrowded and rundown classrooms.

Proposition 47 will help fix our schools...and help our students succeed.

PARENTS SUPPORT Proposition 47 because it **BUILDS NEW SCHOOLS**. Prop. 47:

- **BUILDS THE NEW SCHOOLS** we need for the *hundreds of thousands of new students* entering California classrooms in the coming years.
- **BUILDS NEW CLASSROOMS** to *keep class sizes small*. Our kids can’t learn with 45 kids in their class!

LOCAL TEACHERS SUPPORT Proposition 47 because it **REPAIRS AND RENOVATES OLD AND OUTDATED SCHOOLS**. Prop. 47:

- **FIXES LEAKY ROOFS, REPAIRS BATHROOMS** that don’t work and **PUTS HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING** in our classrooms.
- **GUARANTEES** that our kids go to school in **SAFE BUILDINGS THAT MEET EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE STANDARDS**.

PARENTS AND TEACHERS SUPPORT Proposition 47 because it **MAKES SURE THE MONEY IS SPENT WHERE IT IS NEEDED MOST**. Prop. 47:

- **GUARANTEES** that new schools will be built where classes are already *severely overcrowded*.
- **MAKES SURE** that new and growing communities get their *fair share* of the funds to build the schools they need.

THE CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE and the LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CALIFORNIA SUPPORT Proposition 47 because it **INVESTS IN THE FUTURE OF OUR ECONOMY AND OUR WORKFORCE**. Prop. 47:

- Provides money to **WIRE OUR CLASSROOMS** for the technology and computers our kids need to compete in college or career.
- Gives our students **ACCESS TO** the right **TECHNOLOGY** today to be prepared for the workforce and society of *tomorrow*.

The CALIFORNIA TAXPAYERS’ ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS Proposition 47 because it **PROTECTS TAXPAYERS AND SENIORS** by holding schools accountable for how they spend our hard-earned dollars. Prop. 47:

- **PROVIDES** for **AUDITS, COST CONTROLS** and other **ACCOUNTABILITY** requirements to guard against waste and mismanagement.
- **ASSURES** that taxpayer funds **CANNOT BE SPENT ON BUREAUCRACY** or wasteful overhead—funds can *only* be spent to build or renovate schools.

The CALIFORNIA BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE SUPPORTS Proposition 47 because it *also provides funds for California’s colleges and universities*. Prop. 47:

- **BUILDS NEW COLLEGE CLASSROOMS** to accommodate the tens of thousands of new students who will enter our campuses in the next few years.
- Upgrades aging college laboratories, libraries and research facilities so that they can continue to pave the way for **NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND INDUSTRIES**.

Proposition 47 will provide \$13 billion for school construction and renovation for our public schools, colleges and universities—**WITHOUT RAISING YOUR TAXES**.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS ARE TURNING THE CORNER. Test scores are up and more students are meeting high standards. **BUT THERE IS STILL MUCH MORE WE CAN DO**.

Join Republicans, Democrats and Independents—taxpayers and business leaders—the California Teachers Association and the California State PTA—seniors and women’s groups and millions of Californians who all support our schools.

Invest in California’s children and California’s future.
VOTE YES on PROPOSITION 47.

ALLAN ZAREMBERG, *President*
California Chamber of Commerce

JAN HARP DOMENE, *President*
California State PTA (PTA)

LARRY MCCARTHY, *President*
California Taxpayers’ Association (CAL TAX)

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 47

Recently, a group of 30 Taxpayer Organizations from various parts of the State held a convention under the name California Taxpayers Coalition and unanimously voted to oppose Proposition 47 for one main reason—*California currently has too much debt on the books*.

As California voting taxpayers, we must come to grips with the massive amount of debt we’re all on the hook for. Since 1985, California and its political subdivisions have sold over \$500,000,000,000 in various debt instruments. *That’s \$500 billion in debt!* (For a complete list, go to www.peoplesadvocate.org)

It’s time for California voters to put a stop to this bond-selling binge. Vote “No” on Proposition 47, and send Governor Davis and his cronies in the Legislature a real message.

Neither the Governor, the Treasurer, nor the Controller can tell us how much debt we currently have or how much of our tax money goes toward the interest school districts, cities, and counties pay each year. They simply don’t keep those kinds of

records. This is far worse than the Enron or WorldCom scandals.

Both Moody’s and Standard and Poor’s have downgraded California’s credit rating as a result of the erosion of the State’s fiscal health. *California’s credit rating matters*. Furthermore, it’s outrageous that our Governor, Treasurer, or Controller can’t tell us how much outstanding debt we have in California.

As taxpayers, we should not approve any new debt until our Governor tells us exactly how much debt we currently have on the books.

Vote “No” on Proposition 47.

EDWARD J. (TED) COSTA, *Chairman*
California Taxpayers Coalition

RALPH MORRELL, *President*
Northern California Committee for Limited Government

KEN STEADMAN, *President*
Waste Watchers, Inc.